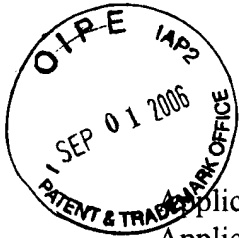


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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number. : 10/697,429 Confirmation Number. : 7741  
Applicants : Bogdan Kowalczyk *et al.*  
Filed : October 29, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 3653  
Examiner : Mark J. Beauchaine  
  
Docket Number : 47171-00408USPT  
Customer Number : 41230

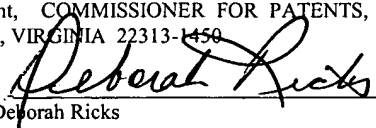
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September 1, 2006

  
Deborah Ricks

**AMENDMENT & RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION**  
**MAILED JUNE 1, 2006**

Dear Commissioner:

This paper is being submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed June 1, 2006, for which the three-month date for response is September 1, 2006. In response thereto, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to consider the following remarks.

The Applicant's **Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the **Listing of Claims**, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

The Applicant's **Remarks** begin on page 5 of this paper.